

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1047

TREASURY DEPT WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 14039

TREASURY FOR MUNDHEIM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, JA

SUBJECT: BERGSTEN MEETING WITH AMAYA ON STEEL QUESTIONS

REF: TOKYO 13928

1. AT PRIVATE MEETING WITH TREASURY ASST SECY BERGSTEN IN TOKYO SEPT 12, MITI BASIC INDUSTRIES BUREAU DIRECTOR GENERAL AMAYA REQUESTED TREASURY DELAY SCHEDULED SEPT 30 TENTATIVE DECISION ON GILMORE STEEL DUMPING CASE ON GROUNDS THAT THIS WAS POSSIBLE UNDER U.S. LAW AND THAT THE DATA AVAILABLE WOULD NOT PERMIT A FAIR DECISION BY THAT DATE. AMAYA FURTHER REQUESTED THAT U.S. GOVT SEEK TO DISSUADE U.S. STEEL FROM FILING DUMPING PETITION AGAINST JAPANESE STEEL COMPANIES OR, IF THAT NOT POSSIBLE, FOR TREASURY TO DELAY ACCEPTING SUCH A PETITION. HE STRESSED THAT THE REACTION IN JAPAN TO THE U.S. STEEL PETITION WOULD BE HIGHLY EMOTIONAL AND REITERATED POINTS REFTEL.

2. RESPONDING TO BERGSTEN QUESTION, AMAYA SAID JAPANESE STEEL PRODUCERS WERE VERY RELUCTANT TO COOPERATE IN SUPPLYING DATA FOR GILMORE CASE BECAUSE THEY FEAR DATA WOULD NOT REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL, THAT NEITHER U.S. NOR EUROPEAN COMPANIES WOULD BE WILLING TO PROVIDE SUCH INFORMATION IN SIMILAR CASES, AND THAT IT WOULD ONLY CONFIDENTIAL

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LEAD TO FURTHER DEMANDS FOR MORE DATA. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BASED ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WOULD, HOWEVER, BE FORTHCOMING IN A FEW DAYS. HE SAW NO PROSPECT THAT JAPANESE COMPANIES WOULD PROVIDE COST OF PRODUCTION DATA FOR U.S. STEEL CASE.

3. BERGSTEN TOLD JAPANESE THAT U.S. LAW REQUIRES FAIRLY RIGID TIMETABLES AND THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY COMPELLING REASON, HE

SAW NO REASON TO DELAY THE TENTATIVE DECISION ON THE GILMORE CASE BEYOND SEPT 30. MAINTENANCE OF THE DEADLINES, HE SAID, IS NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH CREDIBILITY OF PROCESS WHICH IS BENEFICIAL TO OVERALL U.S.-JAPAN TRADE RELATIONS. ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PROVIDED WOULD OF COURSE BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN MAKING FINAL DECISION AT END OF DECEMBER.

4. ON THE U.S. STEEL CASE BERGSTEN SAID IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO ASK FOR A DELAY IN FILING A PETITION AS THE INTENT OF THE U.S. LAW IS VERY CLEAR, I.E., THAT THERE SHOULD BE A QUICK EXAMINATION AND TIMELY RESOLUTION OF THESE QUESTIONS. IN FACT, GIVEN THE JAPANESE VIEW THAT THE PROBLEM WAS SIMPLY THAT THE JAPANESE STEEL INDUSTRY WAS TOO COMPETITIVE, HE THOUGHT THE INVESTIGATION MIGHT BE WELCOME AS A CHANCE TO CLEAR THE AIR ON DUMPING CHARGES. HE AGAIN URGED GOJ SEEK COOPERATION OF JAPANESE FIRMS WITH INVESTIGATION.  
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## Message Attributes

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